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# HEALTH DEPARTMENT.



## SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE HEALTH OF TROWBRIDGE  
DURING 1937.

---

BY

JEAN MURRAY,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH)

AND

LEONARD B. DENSHAM,

M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., O.F.I.

(CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR).

TROWBRIDGE:

B. LANSDOWN & SONS, LTD., DUKE STREET.



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# Trowbridge Urban District Council.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

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### Chairman :

COUNCILLOR J. H. BILLETT.

### Members :

Councillor	FLAY	Councillor	HARDING
„	F. P. GARLICK	„	LONG
„	H. H. GARLICK	„	MRS. TAYLER
„	GARRETT	„	UNDERWOOD
	Councillor WILKINS.		

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## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

DR. J. MURRAY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(Medical Officer of Health).

(Part-Time.)

LEONARD BERTRAM DENSHAM, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., C.M. & F.I.  
(Chief Sanitary Inspector).

BERNARD L. PARKER, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.  
(Assistant Sanitary Inspector).



# MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1937.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Trowbridge Urban  
District Council.*

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MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit my Tenth Annual Report on the Public Health of the town of Trowbridge.

I remain,

Your most obedient Servant,

JEAN MURRAY.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Acres	2,249
Population (Estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		12,410
No. of Inhabited Houses (Rate-book)	31 Dec., 1937 (approx.)								3,850
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£	73,313
Sum represented by Penny Rate	...	...						£	298 5s. 8d.
New Houses erected between 1st Jan. and 31st Dec., 1937—									
	Private	...	...	...					59
	By Local Authority	...							124

The height of the District varies from 100 to 185 feet above sea level. The sub-soil consists chiefly of Oxford Clay, but over a portion of the western area of the town it is of Cornbrash Limestone.

The natural drainage is into a stream known as the River Biss, which flows into the River Avon at a point about a mile-and-a-half from the extreme Northern boundary of the town.

The main industries carried on in the town are Engineering, Brewing, Iron Foundry, Mattress and Brush Factory, Dairy Companies, Bacon Curing and Cloth Weaving.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### BIRTHS.

	Total.	M.	F.
LIVE BIRTHS :—Legitimate	... 162	88	74
Illegitimate	... 2	0	2

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated population, 13.21.

STILL BIRTHS :—Legitimate	... 8	5	3
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RATE per 1,000 population, .64.

Compare : Live Birth Rate, England and Wales, 14.9 per 1000 of population.

Still Birth Rate, England and Wales, 0.6 per 1000 of population.

## DEATHS.

	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths ... ..	162	71	91

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population, 13.05.

Adjusted Death Rate, 10.57.

Compare Death Rate, England and Wales, 12.4.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes, none.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year, 6 Female (Legitimate) and 1 Male (Illegitimate).

## DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births, 42.6.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	20
„ Measles (all ages)	...	...	None
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	None
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs. of age)	...	...	None

## ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES.

	M.	F.	Total.
Diphtheria ... ..	1	1	2
Influenza ... ..	3	2	5
Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	2	4	6
Other Tuberculosis ... ..	1	0	1
Cancer ... ..	11	9	20
Diabetes ... ..	1	4	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage ... ..	2	5	7
Heart Disease ... ..	22	27	49
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	3	11	14
Bronchitis ... ..	4	2	6
Pneumonia ... ..	1	7	8
Peptic Ulcer ... ..	3	0	3
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	0	0	0
Diseases of Liver (other than Cirrhosis) ... ..	0	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	2	2	4
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	3	4	7
Congenital Causes, etc. ... ..	0	4	4
Senility ... ..	1	4	5
Suicide ... ..	1	1	2
Violence (other than Suicide) ... ..	1	3	4
Other Defined Causes ... ..	9	0	9
Totals ... ..	71	91	162

## NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of deaths from Heart Disease appears on first sight to be very high, but it must be appreciated that almost all of these have occurred amongst the age groups 70-80 and 80-90 years, as in previous years.

The number of deaths is 21 lower than last year, and the births outnumber the deaths this year by 2.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

- (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.—No change.
- (b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—No change.
- (c) NURSING IN THE HOME.—There is one Nurse working under the Local Nursing Association.
- (d) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS. — All the County Council Clinics (School, Child Welfare, and Treatment Centres) for the district are held at the old Cottage Hospital, The Halve.
- (e) HOSPITALS.—The local District (General) Hospital has extended its wards, and is building an extension to the Nurses' Home. It now has 52 beds—12 Male, 12 Female, 13 Midwifery, 5 Private Rooms, 8 Cots, and 2 Out-patient beds.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### 1. Water Supply.

This was satisfactory throughout the year. A sample was taken in July, 1937, and sent to the Eastern Counties Laboratory (Drs. Beale and Suckley). The report was highly satisfactory.

### 2. Sewage Disposal.

The report from the County Public Health Department on analysis of the final effluent is "that the works are well kept, . . . but that the effluent is not up to the required standard." I have inspected the works since then, and the effluent has been satisfactory in colour and odour.

### 4. Rivers and Streams.

A close watch has been kept on the River as it passes through the town by the Officers concerned.

### 5. Closet Accommodation.

The Conservancy system is practically non-existent in the Urban District.



**Public Cleansing.**—Owing to the number of new houses on the outer portions of the town, it has been found necessary to augment the regular refuse collecting lorry by a second one, at various times. It is carried out to the satisfaction (and under the supervision) of the Surveyor.

**Sanitary Inspector's Report.**—See latter part of this Report.

**Smoke Abatement.**—No action has been required.

## 6. **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

All preliminary plans, etc., for the Swimming Bath were completed, and on 7th September, 1937, an Inquiry was held by an Inspector from the Ministry of Health. Approval was received for the scheme, and it was intended that the work should be begun in the early part of the year 1938.

The existing Bathing Pool has been improved.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs.**—See latter part of this Report.

**Schools.**—No change.

**Housing.**—See latter part of this Report.

**Inspection and Supervision of Food.**—See Report of Sanitary Inspector.

## **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

The town has been free from any serious infectious diseases except for a strange small outbreak of diphtheria in the latter part of the year.

There having been no cases for many months, no doctor was called in to the first case till the child was almost moribund. She died in hospital within a very few hours after her instant removal there. For the next week or two very mild cases were admitted, until again a doctor was called to the house of a very delicate child, who was then too ill to be moved, and who died very shortly afterwards. All this time the schools involved had been inspected daily by the School Nurse through the co-operation of the County Medical Officer and myself, and a nasal case was found. There was no indication where the original infection had come from. Both the children who died had been of very poor constitution, and none of the other cases showed any ill results of any kind.

A start was made with Schick Testing and Innoculation and a reasonable number of acceptances were received, just before the end of the Christmas term.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

**New Cases :** Non-Respiratory, 2 ; 1 Male, 14 years ; 1 Female, 26 years.

Respiratory, 3 (1 transfer), all Male, 39, 42 and 44 years.

**Deaths :** 7 ; 3 Male, 20, 48 and 56 years ; 4 Female, 16, 32, 32 and 37 years. All Respiratory.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)  
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1937.**

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ... ..	5	—
Diphtheria ... ..	7	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	7	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—

**INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES  
1937.**

Premises.	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted.
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ... ..	5	—	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ... ..	20	—	—
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' Premises.) ... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	25	—	—

# DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—				
Want of cleanliness ...	4	4	—	—
Want of ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding . ...	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation—Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Total ...	4	4	—	—





PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TROWBRIDGE.

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF  
**The Chief Sanitary Inspector.**  
for the Year, 1937.

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BY  
**LEONARD B. DENSHAM,**  
M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., C.F.I.

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

*To the Chairman & Members of the Trowbridge Urban District Council*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit my Seventeenth Annual Report on the work performed in my Department during the Year 1937.

Details regarding the progress made, and statistics relating to various branches of the work are given in the pages which follow.

Slum Clearance has engaged the attention of my Department as in former years, and I am pleased to report that considerable progress has now been made in eliminating some of the "Black Spots" to which reference has been made in former Reports.

The task has not been easy, but I have been fortified in that task by the constant endeavours of an exemplary manner in which the Council have dealt with this grave and difficult problem, and further by the knowledge that hundreds of our fellow Townsfolk—who formerly resided in houses that can be rightly described as "Hovels"—are now enjoying the amenities of decent homes amid fresh air and sunshine by the enthusiasm displayed in their behalf by their representatives—the Council.

A slogan "Halt with Slum Clearance," has been recently introduced, but surely that is a retrograde step and will receive the consideration it deserves. A halt cannot be made until the slum house has been eradicated; all public expenditure on good housing is money well spent.

Thirty-four Clearance Areas have now been dealt with by the Council, involving 389 properties, 364 of which have been confirmed for demolition and occupied by 1,356 persons.

Seven houses included in these Areas have been closed; these were occupied by 27 persons.

Seven houses and Eleven other buildings—a total of 18—were excluded from the Confirmation Orders absolutely.

Besides these, 15 individual Unfit Houses have been ordered to be demolished, occupied by 29 persons.

Five Closing Orders have been made in respect of parts of buildings occupied by 18 persons.

Undertakings have been accepted in respect of two houses not to use same for human habitation, occupied by nine persons.

Undertakings have also been accepted in two instances to render houses fit for human habitation by conversion of two houses into one, necessitating the displacement of two families involving five persons.

Summarised as follows :—

					Persons Dispossessed.
Houses for Demolition (Clearance Areas) ...	364	...			1,356
Houses Closed (Clearance Areas) ...	7	...			27
Houses for Demolition (Individual Unfits) ...	15	...			29
Part Buildings Closed ...	5	...			18
Undertakings accepted not to use houses for habitation ...	2	...			9
Undertakings accepted to convert houses— two into one ...	2	...			5
Totals ...	395	...			1,444

The following Table gives a summary of the persons re-housed to the 31st December, 1937 :—

#### CLEARANCE AREAS.

Total persons to be re-housed ...	1,383
Total persons re-housed or otherwise displaced	1,222
Persons remaining to be re-housed ...	161

#### INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

Total persons to be re-housed ...	61
Total persons re-housed ...	35
Persons remaining to be re-housed ...	26

## HOUSES DEMOLISHED.

The following table gives the number of houses demolished and the persons dispossessed therefrom to the 31st December, 1937 :—

			Houses.		Persons Displaced.
Clearance Areas	...	...	179	...	742
Individual Unfit Houses		...	3	...	2
			—		—
Totals	...	...	182	...	744
			—		—

## HOUSING SURVEY—" PERMITTED NUMBER."

In conformity with the Housing Act, 1936, a systematic survey of certain houses in the Town was continued during the year in order to ascertain the "permitted number" of persons allowed to occupy these houses. As will be readily appreciated; this entailed an enormous amount of extra work, and two men were temporarily engaged to assist.

This survey covered a period of approximately six months—from the 5th October, 1936, to 24th April, 1937. I would prefer to express my appreciation of the manner in which this difficult work was performed and the ready help and willing co-operation manifested by the public in general to the staff of my department. The following table gives a summary of the actual work performed :

Total No. of " Notices of Entry " served	...	1,888
Total No. of houses measured	...	1,851
Total No. of Rooms measured	...	8,662
Total No. of visits made	...	2,711
Total No. of " Permitted Number Notices "		
sent to owners	...	1,851

In order that owners and occupiers may be made acquainted with the overcrowding provisions of the Housing Act specially prepared Leaflets were circulated in the Town.



**TABULAR SUMMARY OF WORK AND INSPECTIONS  
MADE DURING THE YEAR 1937.**

Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	357
Visits to Food Factories	...	...	...	...	...	5
Visits, Stalls in Market (various)	...	...	...	...	...	39
Visits, Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	20
Visits, Provision Shops	...	...	...	...	...	5
Visits, Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits, Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	10
Visits, Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	25
Visits, Re Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits, Re Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	8
Visits, Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits, Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	2
Visits, Re Rat Infestation	...	...	...	...	...	2
Visits, Re Rivers Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	24
Schools Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inspections, Re Drains	...	...	...	...	...	28
Drains Water-tested	...	...	...	...	...	4
Visits, Storage of Petrol	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits, Storage of Carbide	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits, Courts and Yards	...	...	...	...	...	12
Visits, Houses in Proposed Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	308
Inspections with Sub-Committees (Housing)	...	...	...	...	...	96
Inspections, Housing Act (New Clearance Areas)	...	...	...	...	...	122
Inspections, Housing Act (other than Clearance Areas)	...	...	...	...	...	24
Re-Inspections, Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	120
Inspections, Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	40
Visits, Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	243
Visits, Re Demolition of Houses in Confirmed Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	295
Visits with Inspector (Ministry of Health), Slum Clearance	...	...	...	...	...	73
Visits, Houses in Clearance Areas re Re-housing of Families	...	...	...	...	...	180
Re-Visits, Houses in Clearance Areas, re Re-housing of Families	...	...	...	...	...	37
Disinfestation of Furniture—No. of Cases dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	128
Visits re Measurement of Houses, " Permitted Number "	...	...	...	...	...	1100
Re-Inspections, Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits, Re Re-construction Schemes	...	...	...	...	...	26
Interviews with Owners	...	...	...	...	...	43
Inspections with Owners	...	...	...	...	...	12
Visits, Works in Progress	...	...	...	...	...	21
Inspections on Complaint	...	...	...	...	...	82
Visits, Various Causes	...	...	...	...	...	206
Total	...	...	...	...	...	3710

### SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

The number of Slaughter-houses in the District is eight—two Licensed and six Registered. These have been visited periodically during the year.

### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings were instituted in one instance during the year for depositing for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale certain meat, to wit, the head of a pig which was diseased with Tuberculosis, and unfit for the food of man. For some reason which the Magistrates did not disclose, the case was dismissed. The Magistrates were asked to state a case for the opinion of the High Court; the case was not, however, stated, and after further consideration by the Council no further action was taken.

### NOTICES ISSUED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS DURING THE YEAR, OTHER THAN IN RESPECT OF SLUM CLEARANCE NOTICES.

Total Preliminary Notices issued	...	...	...	...	17
Total Preliminary Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	17
Total Statutory Notices issued	...	...	...	...	2
Total Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	2

### BAKEHOUSES.

The number of Bakehouses in the District is 11.

### TABULAR SUMMARY OF PREMISES DISINFECTED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

After Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	4 rooms
After General Illness	...	...	...	1 room
Hospital Wards	...	...	...	5
After Phthisis	...	...	...	11 rooms
After Suspected Typhoid	...	...	...	1 room
After Diphtheria	...	...	...	6 rooms
Total	...	...	...	28

No. of Visits to Slaughter-houses by request	...	...	307
No. of Surprise Visits	...	...	50
Magisterial Orders obtained	...	...	1
No. of Seizures of Diseased or Unsound Food	...	...	1
No. of Prosecutions	...	...	1

## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

It will be seen from the following tables that a total of 49 tons 17 cwts. 0 qrs.  $21\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. of Meat and other Foods were destroyed during the year. This amount is 1 ton 12 cwts. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. **less** than that destroyed during the year 1936.

Tubercular Meat accounted for 41 tons 19 cwts. 2 qrs. 9 lbs., this being 8 cwts. 1 qr.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. **less** than the weight of Meat destroyed for this disease during the previous year.

### CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASE.

#### GENERALISED TUBERCULOSIS.

Beef Carcases Condemned :—					Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Cows ...	...	...	...	12	3	10	1	1
Heifers	...	...	...	2		9	2	26
Bulls ...	...	...	...	0				
Steers	...	...	...	0				
—					—			
				14	3	19	3	27
—					—			
Organs of Same	...	...	...	14 whole sets		12	2	0
					—			
Total Weight					4	12	1	27
					—			

#### CALVES.

Carcases	...	...	...	2		1	1	0
Organs	...	...	...	2 whole sets			1	12
					—			
Total Weight						1	2	12
					—			

#### PIGS.

Pig Carcases Condemned	...	...	...	115	8	16	2	5
Organs of Same	...	...	...	115 whole sets		16	3	4
					—			
Total Weight					9	13	1	9
					—			

## LOCALISED TUBERCULOSIS.

## 1. Whole of Abdominal and Thoracic Organs condemned from :—

				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
(a) Beef Carcases	...	...	3		2	2	20
(b) Pig Carcases	...	...	1704	11	10	2	23
Total Weight				... 11	13	1	15

## 2. Part Carcases Condemned :—

Beef Carcases :—				Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.
Fore Quarters	...	...	2		2	3	0
Heads with Tongue	...	...	3			2	9
Total Weight				...	3	1	9

Pig Carcases :—				Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.
Heads	...	...	2405	15	3	1	27
Necks	...	...	213		7	2	14
Shoulders	...	...	15		2	2	4
Flicks	...	...	27			2	21
Flanks	...	...	7				16
Fore Quarters	...	...	3			2	0
Hind Quarters	...	...	1			1	6
Legs	...	...	1				17
Total Weight				... 15	15	1	21

The total weight of Meat affected with Generalised or Localised Tuberculosis destroyed as unfit for human food during the year :—

Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
41	19	2	9



CARCASES DESTROYED FOR OTHER DISEASES.

PIGS.

Nature of Disease.	No. of Whole Carcases.	Weight of Carcases. Tons. cwts. qrs. lbs.				Weight of Organs. Tons. cwts. qrs. lbs.			
Rickets with Malnutrition ... ..	9	6	2	0		3	6		
Pneumonia (Septic)	14	13	3	12		1	2	12	
Pyæmia ... ..	10	12	2	4		1	1	5	
Malignant Neoplasms	4	4	0	0			2	4	
Inflammation (acute)	19	1	3	0	20	2	2	15	
Natural Death ... ..	18	1	5	0	6	2	1	13	
Dropsy ... ..	1			2	6			10	
Septicæmia ... ..	1			2	24			20	
Mammitis (Septic) ...	1	3	0	6			1	2	
Swine Erysipelas (acute) ... ..	2	1	3	22				25	
Peritonitis (Septic)	2	6	1	10			2	4	
Dermatomycosis (acute) ... ..	2	2	2	26			1	2	
Icterus ... ..	2	2	1	20			1	2	
Myodysgenesis ... ..	1	1	0	7				15	
Marasmus ... ..	6	2	2	5			2	9	
Anæmia ... ..	1			2	24			15	
Septic Metritis ... ..	1	3	1	18			1	2	
Extensive Bruising	5	5	2	13			2	19	
Gangrene ... ..	1	2	0	1				15	
	100	5	18	1	0		12	3	27
		VEAL.							
Immaturity ... ..	2			3	6		1	12	
Icterus ... ..	4	2	1	3			2	24	
Inflammation (acute)	3	1	3	5			2	4	
Pneumonia (Septic)	1			2	16			20	
	10	5	2	2			1	3	4
		MUTTON.							
Anæmia ... ..	1			1	17			10	
Hydræmia ... ..	1			1	17			10	
	2			3	6			20	
GRAND TOTAL WEIGHT ...		Tons. 6	cwts. 19	qrs. 2	lbs. 3				

## LOCAL AFFECTIONS (Organs or Parts).

Nature of Meat, etc., Destroyed.	No. or Amount	Disease or Condition.	Tons. cwt. qrs. lbs.
<b>PIGS :—</b>			
Flicks ... ..	20	Peritonitis ... ..	1 26
Kidneys ... ..	45	Hydronephrosis ... ..	14 $\frac{3}{4}$
Livers ... ..	12	Necrosis ... ..	2 1
Whole Organs ... ..	4	Inflammation ... ..	1 22
Plucks ... ..	1	Aspiration of Blood...	6
Plucks ... ..	3	Pericarditis ... ..	20
Thoracic Walls ... ..	2	Pleurisy ... ..	1 2
Skin ... ..	1	Dermatomycosis ... ..	1 0
Heads ... ..	1	Decomposition ... ..	15
Legs ... ..	37	Damaged ... ..	7 1 7
Legs ... ..	6	Abscess ... ..	3 12
Fore Quarters ... ..	2	Malformations ... ..	26
Hind Quarters ... ..	2	Abscess ... ..	2 4
Sundry Portions ... ..	—	Damaged ... ..	2 3 10
		Total Weight ... ..	14 0 25 $\frac{3}{4}$
<b>BEEF :—</b>			
Livers ... ..	1	Abscess ... ..	14
Lungs ... ..	1 set	Abscess ... ..	7
		Total Weight ... ..	21
<b>MUTTON :—</b>			
Shoulders and Neck	1	Damaged ... ..	15
		Total Weight ... ..	15

FROZEN OR CHILLED MEAT.

Top and Rump	...	2	Bone Taint	...	2	1	9
Thick Flank	...	1	Decomposition	...			12
Shin	...	1	Decomposition	...		1	0
			Total Weight	...	2	2	21
			TINNED FOODS.				
		Tins.					
Brisket Beef	...	7				1	14
Pork Brawn	...	5				1	2
Corned Beef	...	6					4½
Ox Tongue	...	3					13½
Apricots	...	1					5
			Total Weight	...		3	11

	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Grand Total Weight	18	0	9 $\frac{3}{4}$

Total Weight of Meat and other Foods surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human food during the year (other than Tubercular Meat) :—

Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
7	17	2	12 $\frac{3}{4}$

Total Weight of Meat and other Foods surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human food during the year (including Tubercular Meat) :—

Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
49	17	0	21 $\frac{3}{4}$

### **SHOPS, STALLS AND VEHICLES, AND PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED.**

Periodic inspections have been made of the Butchers' Shops and other places where food is prepared, and the Market Stalls and Vehicles have been inspected from time to time. Statutory action was deemed necessary in only one instance.

There is no meat marking scheme in operation in the District.

### **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.**

The number of slaughtermen whose names appear on the Register is 28. The provisions of the Act relating to the stunning of animals were made applicable to Sheep and Lambs by resolution of the Council passed on the 30th October, 1933.

### **HOUSING ACTS, 1909—1936.**

**Statement of Work carried out during the year ended 31st December, 1936, under the above Acts.**

#### **1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.**

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 186
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...1026
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 144
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 857

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	144
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...						2
2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.							
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.							
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—							
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...			1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—							
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...						0
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—							
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...					0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—							
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...						0
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—							
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...		13
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...		2



## D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	4
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	0

## 4. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV. OVERCROWDING.

A.	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	...	238
B.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
C.	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	170
D.	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

**HOUSING ACT, 1936—SLUM CLEARANCE.**

The work of Slum Clearance was continued, and official representations were submitted to the Council in respect of the following seven Clearance Areas :—

- No. 28. Bradford Road.
- No. 29. Newtown.
- No. 30. Frome Road.
- No. 31. Mortimer Street (No. 1).
- No. 32. Castle Street.
- No. 33. Mortimer Street (No. 2).
- No. 34. Barnett's Court.

Full details concerning these Areas are given in the following Tables.

The Clearance Orders were advertised by publication of Notices in the prescribed form in one of the newspapers circulating in the District.

All owners and other persons interested with properties in the Areas were served with notices in the prescribed form giving (inter alia), the time within which any objection to the Orders could be made to the Minister of Health.

The Clearance Orders, with all necessary maps defining the Areas and delineating the buildings coloured Pink and numbered consecutively thereon, together with all other particulars, were submitted to the Minister of Health for confirmation.

Objections were made to the Minister by six owners to the making of Clearance Orders in respect of the following Areas :—

- No. 31. Mortimer Street (No. 1).
- No. 32. Castle Street.
- No. 33. Mortimer Street (No. 2).
- No. 34. Barnett's Court.

The total properties in the seven Areas was 72, and objections were made to the demolition of 31. No objections were raised against Clearance Orders made in respect of :—

- No. 28. Bradford Road.
- No. 29. Newtown.
- No. 30. Frome Road.

A Public Local Inquiry was held by the Minister of Health at the Town Hall, on Wednesday, the 15th day of September, 1937, into the subject matter of these Orders, and was conducted by W. Mackintosh, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., one of the Inspectors of the Ministry of Health. After the Inquiry, the Inspector, together with owners, the Medical Officer of Health and myself, inspected every property comprised in the 7 Clearance Areas, and every consideration was given by him to all points raised by owners. Confirmation Orders (without modification) in respect of these 7 Clearance Orders, were made by the Minister of Health on the 24th December, 1937. The total number of dwelling-houses confirmed for demolition was 72. Notice of Confirmation was published in one of the newspapers circulating in the District, and all persons who appeared at the Public Local Inquiry in support of





## SLUM CLEARANCE.

TABLE SHEWING FULL DETAILS OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN SLUM CLEARANCE IN THE DISTRICT FROM 1934 TO 1937.

	1934					1935					1936					1937.					Grand Total from 1934 to 1937																		
	CLEARANCE AREAS.				Total for 1934.	CLEARANCE AREAS.				Total for 1935.	CLEARANCE AREAS.					Total for 1936.	CLEARANCE AREAS.					Total for 1937.																	
	(1) Shaile Lane.	(2) Conigre.	(3) Waldron's Square.	(4) Back Street.		(5) Cady's Yard.	(6) Islington Gardens.	(7) Arch Yard.	(8) Poplar Yard.		(9) Beaven's Yard.	(10) Bennett's Yard.	(11) Edinburgh Buildings.	(12) Taylor's Court.	(13) Hawkins' Buildings.		(14) Union Square.	(15) Mansfield Place.	(16) Silverthorne's Court.	(17) Cox's Yard.			(18) Court Street (No. 1).	(19) Court Street (No. 2).	(20) St. Stephen's Place (No. 1).	(21) St. Stephen's Place (No. 2).	(22) Unity Square.	(23) New Road Court.	(24) Bailey's Court.	(25) Havelock Street.	(26) New Road.	(27) Polebarn Road.	(28) Bradford Road.	(29) Newtown.	(30) Frome Road.	(31) Mortimer St. (No. 1).	(32) Castle Street.	(33) Mortimer St. (No. 2).	(34) Barnett's Court.
1. Date of Declaration of Clearance Area ...	26th March, 1934	26th March, 1934	26th March, 1934	26th March, 1934		28th Jan., 1935.	28th Jan., 1935.	28th Jan., 1935.	28th Jan., 1935.	28th Jan., 1935.	28th Jan., 1935.	28th Jan., 1935.	28th Jan., 1935.	28th Jan., 1935.		25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936	25th May, 1936		31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937				
2. Date of Clearance Order ...	9th May, 1934	9th May, 1934	9th May, 1934	9th May, 1934		25th Feb., 1935.	25th Feb., 1935.	25th Feb., 1935.	25th Feb., 1935.	25th Feb., 1935.	25th Feb., 1935.	25th Feb., 1935.	25th Feb., 1935.	25th Feb., 1935.		29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936	29th June, 1936		31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937	31st May, 1937				
3. Date of Confirmation of Clearance Order by Minister of Health ...	20th Nov., 1934	20th Nov., 1934	20th Nov., 1934	31st Dec., 1934		10th July, 1935.	10th July, 1935.	10th July, 1935.	10th July, 1935.	10th July, 1935.	10th July, 1935.	10th July, 1935.	10th July, 1935.	10th July, 1935.		25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936	25th Nov., 1936		24th Dec., 1937	24th Dec., 1937	24th Dec., 1937	24th Dec., 1937	24th Dec., 1937	24th Dec., 1937				
4. Number of Clearance Orders prepared ...	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	34		
5. Number of Dwelling-houses and other Buildings Scheduled for Demolition ...	52	62	4	12	130	19	9	8	4	19	3	18	4	6	93	10	16	7	3	4	12	2	5	3	11	2	12	3	7	97	2	27	4	10	7	13	9	72	389
6. Number of Dwelling-houses confirmed by the Minister of Health for Demolition ...	51	47	4	6	108	19	9	8	4	19	3	18	4	6	90	10	16	4	3	4	12	2	5	3	11	2	12	3	7	94	2	27	4	10	7	13	9	72	364
7. Number of Dwelling-houses excluded by Minister of Health from Clearance Order.	1	4	—	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	
8. Number of other Buildings excluded by Minister of Health from Clearance Order ...	—	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	
9. Number of Dwelling-houses excluded by Minister of Health from Clearance Order to be dealt with under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930, as extended by Section 84 of the Housing Act, 1935 ...	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
10. Number of Dwelling-houses excluded by Minister of Health from Clearance Order, subject to same not being used for human habitation. Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930, as extended by Section 83 of the Housing Act, 1935 ...	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
11. Total Number of Dwelling-houses and other Buildings in respect of which Objections were made ...	48	57	4	11	120	4	7	8	—	—	—	2	4	2	27	—	—	3	—	4	—	—	5	—	—	1	7	3	7	30	—	—	—	5	7	13	6	31	208
12. Number of Individual Objections made as to the making of a Clearance Order	8	15	1	3	27	2	4	1	—	—	—	2	1	2	12	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	1	2	11	—	—	—	2	1	2	1	6	56
13. Total Number of Persons occupying Dwelling-houses Scheduled for Demolition before Confirmation of Clearance Order ...	220	251	18	41	530	61	55	40	12	76	9	60	10	17	339	32	54	10	8	18	42	7	17	9	35	10	41	11	30	325	3	85	15	27	23	36	37	226	1420
14. Total Number of Persons occupying Dwelling-houses confirmed by Minister of Health for Demolition ...	215	214	18	19	466	61	55	40	12	76	9	60	10	17	339	32	54	10	8	18	42	7	17	9	35	10	41	11	30	325	3	85	15	27	23	36	37	226	1356
15. Total Number of Persons occupying Dwelling-houses excluded by Confirmation Order ...	5	23	—	9	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	
16. Total Number of Persons occupying Dwelling-houses excluded from Clearance Order to be Closed under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930, as extended by Section 84 of the Housing Act, 1935 ...	—	14	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	
17. Total Number of Persons occupying Houses excluded from Clearance Order, subject to same not being used for human habitation. Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930, as extended by Section 83 of the Housing Act, 1935 ...	—	—	—	13	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	
18. Total Number of Persons who will be Dispossessed and in respect of which Grant is obtained ...	215	228	18	32	493	61	55	40	12	76	9	60	10	17	339	32	54	10	8	18	42	7	17	9	35	10	41	11	30	325	3	85	15	27	23	36	37	226	1383
19. Total Number of Houses in respect of which Compensation directed by the Minister of Health to be made by Local Authority to Owners (well-maintained houses) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	5		

## NOTICES ISSUED IN RESPECT OF CLEARANCE AREAS FROM 1934 TO 1937. NUMBERS 1-34.

	1934					1935													1936																	1937.										
	CLEARANCE AREAS.				Total for 1934.	CLEARANCE AREAS.													Total for 1935.	CLEARANCE AREAS.																	Total for 1936.	CLEARANCE AREAS.							Total for 1937.	Grand Total from 1934 to 1937
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)		(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)	(32)	(33)	(34)										
	Shaile Lane.	Conigre.	Waldron's Square.	Back Street.		Cadby's Yard.	Islington Gardens.	Arch Yard.	Poplar Yard.	Beaven's Yard.	Bennett's Yard.	Edinburgh Buildings.	Taylor's Court.	Hawkins' Buildings.	Union Square.	Mansfield Place.	Silverthorne's Court.	Cox's Yard.		Court Street (No. 1).	Court Street (No. 2).	St. Stephen's Place (No. 1).	St. Stephen's Place (No. 2).	Unity Square.	New Road Court.	Bailey's Court.	Havelock Street.	New Road.	Polebarn Road.	Bradford Road.	Newtown.	Frome Road.	Mortimer St. (No. 1).	Castle Street.	Mortimer St. (No. 2).	Barnett's Court.										
1. Notice to Owners, Mortgagees, Lessees, etc., of the making of a Clearance Order ...	11	16	1	4	32	5	5	3	2	1	1	5	1	3	26	2	2	3	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	4	6	1	5	34	1	3	2	4	1	2	2	15	107							
2. Notice of Clearance Order confirmed by Minister of Health to Individual Objectors ...	11	12	1	4	28	2	4	2	—	—	—	2	1	2	13	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	1	2	12	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	6	59							
3. Notice to Owners of Official Confirmation Order, etc., by Minister of Health ...	11	17	1	4	33	5	5	3	2	1	1	5	1	3	26	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	6	1	5	29	1	3	2	5	1	3	3	18	106								
4. Notice to Occupiers to Quit Building after Clearance Order becomes operative ...	42	51	4	8	105	16	9	8	4	19	3	17	4	6	86	10	16	4	3	4	12	2	5	3	10	2	12	3	7	93	2	23	4	8	6	9	9	61	345							
5. Total Number of Record Cards Prepared ...	49	54	4	11	118	19	9	8	4	19	3	18	4	6	90	10	16	7	3	4	12	2	5	3	11	2	12	3	7	97	2	27	4	10	7	13	9	72	377							
6. Notices—Information as to Ownership—Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1930 ...	—	—	—	—	—	6	4	1	2	1	1	3	2	2	22	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	5	1	2	25	1	3	1	3	1	2	2	13	60								







## STATISTICS RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES, 1935-37.

	1935.	1936.	1937.	Grand Total.
No. of Notices issued to Appear before Local Authority to show cause why Demolition Order should not be made ... ..	2	1	18	21
No. of Demolition Orders made (Occupied Houses) ... ..	2	—	12	14
No. of Demolition Orders made (Void Houses) ... ..	—	—	1	1
No. of Notices issued to appear before Local Authority to show cause why Closing Order should not be made ... ..	—	1	4	5
No. of Closing Orders made ... ..	—	1	4	5
No. of Undertakings given by Owners and Accepted by Local Authority to Render Houses Fit for Occupation ... ..	—	1	1	2
No. of Undertakings given by Owners and Accepted by Local Authority to Cease Using Houses for Human Habitation ...	—	—	2	2
No. of Undertakings given by Owners and Accepted by Local Authority to render Houses Fit by means of Conversion ...	—	—	2	2
Total Families Re-Housed by Local Authority ... ..	1	—	10	11
Total Persons Re-Housed by Local Authority ... ..	1	—	34	35
Total Families otherwise Dispossessed ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total Persons otherwise Dispossessed ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total Families Displaced ... ..	1	—	10	11
Total Persons Displaced ... ..	1	—	34	35
Total Families remaining to be Re-Housed ... ..	1	1	11	11
Total Persons remaining to be Re-Housed ... ..	1	5	26	26
Notices to Occupiers requiring Removal to New Houses ...	1	—	10	11
No. of Dwelling-houses Demolished ... ..	—	1	2	3
No. of Persons Displaced from Demolished Houses ... ..	—	1	1	2





their objections were served with the necessary Notices. No appeals were made against the validity of the Confirmation Orders, and they became operative six weeks from the date of publication, and all persons concerned with properties in the areas were served with a copy of the Confirmation Orders.

The whole of the 124 houses erected on the Longfield Housing Estate were tenanted during 1937. A further 90 houses are now in course of erection on this Estate.

During the latter part of the year full details were being obtained in connection with the following Clearance Areas :—

- No. 35. Kemp's Buildings.
- No. 36. Mortimer Street (No. 3).
- No. 37. Unity Buildings.
- No. 38. New Road (No. 2).
- No. 39. New Road (No. 3).
- No. 40. Drewett's Yard.
- No. 41. Gasworks Road.
- No. 42. Shails Lane (No. 2).
- No. 43. Upper Broad Street.
- No. 44. Church Street.
- No. 45. St. Thomas' Road.
- No. 46. The Furlong.
- No. 47A. Islington (No. 1).
- No. 47B. Islington (No. 2).
- No. 47C. Islington (No. 3).
- No. 48. Upper Studley (No. 1).
- No. 49. Upper Studley (No. 2).
- No. 50. Upper Studley (No. 3).

These areas will be dealt with by the Council during the year 1938.

Mr. R. L. Apperley (Assistant Inspector) secured the post of Assistant Sanitary Inspector under the Bristol Corporation, and resigned during the month of March. The Council decided to appoint a permanent Assistant, and the vacancy was filled during the month of June by the appointment of Mr. B. L. Parker, who has proved himself to be in every way a very loyal and painstaking colleague.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS, AND RE-HOUSING.

The work of disinfecting furniture and other items was continued by the Local Authority in the hut provided on the Longfield Housing Estate, no contractor being employed. In order to ensure that the belongings of tenants entering new houses were free from vermin, all furniture and other articles were thoroughly sprayed with a suitable insecticide. Iron bedsteads and spring mattresses were flamed with a blow-lamp. Two men were engaged temporarily for this purpose, who worked under my supervision.

The total number of families re-housed by the Local Authority during the year was 128, and the total number of persons re-housed was 476. No action was taken to deal with any Council houses or other houses for the eradication of the bed bug during the year.

### SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Owing to pressure of work connected with Slum Clearance and Meat Inspection, no systematic inspection of the Shops in the District was possible during the year.

### DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

The removal of house refuse is carried out directly by the Council. The refuse is tipped on a spare portion of land at the Sewage Works.

Mechanically-propelled vehicles are in use, which are provided with dust-proof canvas covers. This work is under the control of the Surveyor, and the method of disposal is known as indiscriminate tipping.

Mr. Mitchell was employed to deal with the Rat menace at the tip, and his work proved very successful.

### DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Two Registers are kept which give details concerning the number of Cowkeepers and Wholesale and Retail Purveyors of Milk in the District. An endeavour has been made to inspect as many of these premises as was possible during the year. These are :—

Cowkeepers and Wholesale Purveyors	...	17
Retail Purveyors	... ..	24
		<hr/>
Total	... ..	41
		<hr/>

Pasteurisation of Milk is carried out at one Dairy in the Town, situate at Court Street, and owned by the Trowbridge Co-operative Society. The premises are Licensed by the Local Authority and kept in excellent condition.

### GENERAL REMARKS.

In concluding this Report it is again a pleasure and privilege to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman of the Council, and also to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee respectively, for all the help and assistance which they have given me during the year. I desire also to thank all the other Members of the Council for their continued support, and the Officials for their kind co-operation.

I have the honour to remain,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

LEONARD BERTRAM DENSHAM,

M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., C.F.I.







